

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of March 25, 2005, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in their amended form.

By this amendment applicant has withdrawn claims 5 and 7-12 from the application without prejudice to renew. Claims 1-4 and 6 which are directed to the elected invention remain in the case.

Applicant apologizes for including claim 5 in the application since it does not fall within the scope of generic claim 1.

Applicant also respectfully notes the Examiner's comment with respect to the improper Markush group in claim 1 regarding groups Z and Y. Accordingly, he has amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion which is deemed to overcome the rejection of an improper Markush group. The Z group together with the atoms to which it is attached has been limited to the pyridinium group.

Applicant has also inserted the definition of X⁻ as set forth at the bottom of page 5 of the specification. It had inadvertently been omitted from the claim. Any inconvenience to the Examiner is regretted.

By this amendment applicant has corrected the spelling of "hydroxyalkyl" at line 2 after the formula in claim 1. Since Z and Y of the formula have superscripts "1", claim 1 has also been amended so that the use of these groups is consistent throughout the claim. Applicant therefore submits that the claims as amended are now in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Bradamante et al reference cited by the Examiner as anticipating claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as now amended excludes any of the compounds disclosed in the reference since when Y¹ is nitrogen, Q can not be =CH-. Applicant therefore submits that claims 1 and 2 are not anticipated by the cited reference. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

For each of the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the claims in their amended form are not in condition for allowance. Early, favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant is also enclosing herewith a petition for a three month extension of time together with a check for \$510.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William R. Moran', written over a horizontal line.

William R. Moran

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